From: Philip Brown
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/10/01 3:59am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement.

To whom it may concern,
  I would like to make known my views on the proposed microsoft settlement.

While the Microsoft legal team has done very poorly in their defence
against criminal action, their expertise in contract law is unparallelled.
Any type of conduct settlement is essentially a contract.
Their skills in that area WILL result in them sidestepping any limitations
put upon them to violate the spirit of anti-trust law in new and
"innovative" ways.
The last attempt at a conduct remedy should show this more than adequately.

Microsoft has been truthful in one thing in their description of the case:
This is indeed a "fast-moving industry". A year in this business is like 5
in any other. Therefore, American business cannot afford another 4 years of
watching Microsoft abuse the system, and another 4 on top of that for
another round of legal action. The punishment for their past infringements
must be swift, and not "open to interpretation".

The only remedy that fits these criteria is a structural breakup of
Microsoft into separate business units that are forbidden to overlap in
areas of commerce. Additionally, with all the new areas Microsoft is
getting into these days, a mere two divisions may be inadequate to nullify
their cross-market monopoly leverage. I shall not suggest a specific set of
divisions, but I would like to point out that Microsoft is currently
operating in the following areas:

Broadcast television (MSNBC)
Desktop Operating Systems
Server Operating Systems
Palmtop Operating Systems (WinCE)
Embedded Operating Systems (In children's educational toys)
Internet connectivity (msn)
Appliance computing/internet connectivity (WebTV)
Business software
Entertainment software
Entertainment hardware platform (X-Box)
Entertainment hardware accessories (microsoft mouse, joystick, etc)

There is barely a single facet of consumer-available electronics and software
in which Microsoft does not have a hand in. In fact, I cannot think of a
single one.